

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mih Suhn Koh on 6/4/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 5-15, 17 and 18 are cancelled.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see page 9, filed 2/17/2010, with respect to the rejection under 35 USC 103 over Yoon have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1-4 and 16 has been withdrawn.

Applicant has correctly argued that the polyelectrolyte template layer disclosed by Yoon is not taught to be uniformly aligned, and that there is no teaching in Yoon that would suggest to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the polyelectrolyte was or could be uniformly oriented.

3. Applicant's arguments, see page 21, filed 2/17/2010, with respect to the 35 USC 103 rejection over Lee in view of Raukola have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1-4 and 16 has been withdrawn.

As argued by applicant, there is no teaching Lee that the foam may be oriented or that would suggest to one of ordinary skill in the art that if an oriented foam was utilized in the process an oriented zeolite would be produced. The structure imparted to the zeolite by the foam in the process disclosed by Lee is simply the cellular structure and macroscopic shape of the template.

Allowed Claims

4. Claims 1, 4 and 16 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The closest prior art, Yoon (J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2001, 123, pp. 9769-0779) discloses an ordered zeolite assembled on a polyelectrolyte layer, but fails to disclose that the polyelectrolyte template layer is uniformly aligned. Lee et al. (Adv. Mater., 2001, 13, No. 16, pp. 1259-1263) discloses that a polyurethane foam may be used as a template for zeolite materials, resulting in a zeolite structure that exhibits the structure of the foam template. However, there is no teaching Lee that the foam may be oriented or that would suggest to one of ordinary skill in the art that if an oriented foam was utilized in the process an oriented zeolite would be produced. The structure imparted to the zeolite by the foam in the process disclosed by Lee is simply the cellular structure and macroscopic shape of the template.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KEVIN M. JOHNSON whose telephone number is (571)270-3584. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Mayes can be reached on 571-272-1234. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kevin M Johnson/
Examiner, Art Unit 1793

June 7, 2010

/Melvin Curtis Mayes/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1793